

REMARKS**Summary of the Office Action**

Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Takashima (U.S. Patent No. 4,643,522) (hereinafter "Takashima").

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

Applicant has amended claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 10 and 13.

Claims 1-14 are pending.

All Claims Define Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Takashima. The rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) is respectfully traversed. Applicant has amended claim 1 to particularly point out and distinctly claim an embodiment of Applicant's invention. Claim 1 recites an optical pickup apparatus, including an object lens, a bobbin, an elastic member, and a pair of coils. The bobbin is configured to support the object lens and the elastic member is configured to support the bobbin in a cantilevered manner. Each of the pair of coils is disposed on the bobbin at a 180 degrees symmetric position with respect to a centroid of a placement face of the object lens in the bobbin, and each of the coils is disposed in a different plane. Support for claim 1 is provided at, for example, page 9, ll. 17-22, page 13, ll. 6-18, Fig. 3 and Fig. 4 of Applicant's specification as originally filed.

In contrast, Takashima is directed to an optical pickup apparatus including a bobbin that is supported around a perimeter of the bobbin by elastic members. As described at col. 3, line

57- col. 4, line 8, and illustrated in Fig. 4 and Fig. 6 of Takashima, conical coil springs 25A and 25C are mounted between projections 22a and 22c and a pair of magnets 20A and 20B along the x-axis. Similarly, conical coil springs 25B and 25D are mounted between projections 22b and 22d and the pair of magnets 20A and 20B along the y-axis. One end of each of the coil springs 25A to 25D is fixed at a corresponding one of the mounted projections 22a to 22d, and the other end of each of the coil springs 25A to 25D is fixed at the inner surfaces 20a of the pair of magnets 20A and 20B. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Takashima does not teach or suggest at least the feature of an elastic member that is configured to support a bobbin in a cantilevered manner, as recited in claim 1.

Claim 11 recites an optical pickup apparatus, including an object lens, a bobbin, and first, second, third and fourth coils. The bobbin is configured to support the object lens. The first coil and the second coil are disposed on a first side surface of the bobbin. The third coil and the fourth coil are disposed on a second side surface, opposed to the first side surface of the bobbin. The first coil and the third coil are disposed at a position symmetric with respect to an optical axis of the object lens and are electrically connected to each other. The second coil and the fourth coil are disposed at a position symmetric with respect to an optical axis of the object lens and are electrically connected to each other. Support for claim 11 is provided at, for example, page 15, line 11 – page 16, line 22, Fig. 7A and Fig. 7B of Applicant's specification as originally filed.

As described at col. 4, ll. 11-20, and illustrated in Fig. 4 of Takashima, coils 28A and 28B for linearly driving the objective lens holder 22 along the x-axis are respectively mounted on the pair of projections 22a and 22c extending along the x-axis. Each of the coils 28A and 28B

is wound in one direction with respect to the x-axis as its axis. Similarly, coils 29A and 29B for driving the objective lens holder 22 along the y-axis are respectively mounted on the pair of projections 22b and 22d extending along the y-axis. Each of the coils 29A and 29B is wound in one direction with respect to the y-axis as its axis. However, Applicant submits that Takashima does not disclose that any of coils 28A, 28B, 29A and 29B are electrically connected to each other. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Takashima does not teach or suggest at least the features of the first coil and the third coil are disposed at a position symmetric with respect to an optical axis of the object lens and are electrically connected to each other, and the second coil and the fourth coil are disposed at a position symmetric with respect to an optical axis of the object lens and are electrically connected to each other, as recited in claim 11.

Claims 2-10 depend from claim 1, and claims 12-14 depend from claim 11. The dependent claims recite the same combination of allowable features recited in the respective independent claims, as well as additional features that define over the prior art. Accordingly, it is requested that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), of claims 1-14, be withdrawn, and the claims allowed.

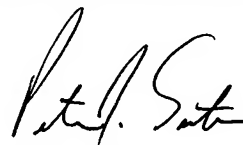
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests reconsideration and timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative to expedite prosecution. A favorable action is awaited.

EXCEPT for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0573. This paragraph is intended to be a **CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME** in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

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